

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SIG-02 /069 R

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S/PRS - F. BROWN (INFO)

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P 062025Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT QUERY (OCT. 4 PRESS BRIEFING)

1. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT FUNSETH, AT OCT. 4 PRESS BRIEFING, WAS ASKED ABOUT CERTAIN PROTECTION FEATURES OF RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL.

2. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS OF BRIEFING (BEGIN TEXT):

Q: BOB, DOES SECRETARY HAVE ANY PROVISION IN HIS RHODESIAN TURNOVER PACKAGE TO PROVIDE EITHER PROTECTION OR UNCLASSIFIED

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PROPERTY-LOSS COMPENSATION TO ALL THOSE RHODESIAN BLACKS

WHO ARE NOT TERRORISTS, SUCH AS TEN CHIEFS WHO ARE PRESENTLY MEMBERS OF RHODESIAN SENATE -- FOUR OF WHOM, I BELIEVE, ARE IN SMITH'S CABINET?

A: I DO NOT QUITE UNDERSTAND YOUR QUESTION. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

Q: WELL, THEY HAVE BEEN CHARGED -- TERMED AS SELL-OUTS, WHICH IS LETHAL TERM, AS YOU KNOW, FROM THAT PART OF WORLD AND SO FORTH. AND I'M JUST WONDERING, IF THING IS TURNED OVER TO SITHOLE OR MUZOREWA OR NKOMO AND SO FORTH THEIR FOLLOWERS MAY EXACT HEAVY TOLL ON THESE

BLACK LEADERS IN GOVERNMENT OF RHODESIA NOW. HAS SECRETARY EITHER TALKED TO THEM OR THOUGHT ABOUT IT OR MADE ANY PROVISION TO PROTECT THEIR LIVES AND PROPERTY?

A: WHOLE POINT OF EFFORT IN WHICH WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IS TO ARRANGE FOR PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE WITH PROTECTION OF MINORITY RIGHTS. SO NEXT STEP IS CONFERENCE THAT BRITISH ARE CONVENING IN WHICH AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT WILL BE FORMED. OBVIOUSLY, IT WILL BE UP TO THIS INTERIM GOVERNMENT, COMPOSED OF BOTH BLACK AND WHITE RHODESIANS, TO ARRANGE FOR PROTECTION OF THEIR CITIZENS. BUT WHOLE POINT OF EXERCISE, TO WHICH THERE HAS BEEN GENERAL AGREEMENT, IS PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE.

Q: DO YOU SENSE, DOES THE DEPARTMENT SENSE IN THE REACTION -- COLUMNISTS, EDITORIALS AND SO FORTH -- THAT THE BULK OF PUBLIC OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES FEELS THAT THE SECRETARY HAS ACHIEVED IN FACT A SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH -- OR IS THE FEELING THAT YOU SENSE A SUSPICION THAT HE MAY HAVE FOOLED BOTH SIDES?

A: THERE IS NO QUESTION OF HIS FOOLING BOTH SIDES. PEOPLE FROM BOTH SIDES HAVE SPOKEN TO THE EFFORT -- BOTH BLACK AND WHITE RHODESIANS, AS WELL AS OTHER PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WHO ARE INTERESTED IN SEEING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND AN END TO VIOLENCE IN SOUTHERN

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AFRICA. (END TEXT)

ROBINSON

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